DEPARTMENT OF NOTES AND REVIEWS

It is the purpose, in this department, to present from time to time brief original notes, both of methods of work and of results, by members of the Society. All members are invited to submit such items. In addition to these there will be given a few brief abstracts of recent work of more general interest to students and teachers. There will be no attempt to make these abstracts exhaustive. They will illustrate progress without attempting to define it, and will thus give to the teacher current illustrations, and to the isolated student suggestions of suitable fields of investigation.—[Editor.]

THE NEW TREASURER

Owing to press of duties, Dr. H. J. Van Cleave, at the end of his three year term, has felt it necessary to offer his resignation as Treasurer of the American Microscopical Society. In as much as no meeting of the Society was held in 1918, this resignation was acted on by the Executive Committee. In accepting Dr. Van Cleave's resignation the Committee in both formal and personal ways recorded their great regret and their thanks to him for a most capable and constructive administration of the office.

Mr. Wm. F. Henderson, Instructor in The James Millikin University, Decatur, Illinois, was named Treasurer for the ensuing term, subject to ratification at the next constitutional meeting.

THE PROBLEMS OF THE FUTURE

The Secretary wishes to call the attention of the Society to the fact of the great loss, especially among our younger members, during the last four years. This is neither a surprising, unique, nor prostrating experience. It is common among societies of this kind. It does, however, call for heroic and thorogoing coöperation among the membership.

I am sure that every member of the American Microscopical Society has confidence that science and scientific research will not suffer permanently after the war. Whatever of our predilections and practises have been shown to be either ineffective or false by the events of the war, science and scientific men showed that the future is helpless without them.

Our own Society, publishing as it does from 300 to 400 pages each year of the results of research in fundamentally important fields of human interest, ought to enter firmly and confidently into its portion

of this future progress. The fields opened up by the microscope—whether in zoology, botany, histology, pathology, medicine, bacteriology and sanitation; or in the hundreds of more specialized industrial aspects of food examination, textiles, agriculture, chemistry, mineralogy, and the like—will be greatly enlarged during the next quarter of a century.

The Secretary feels that our Society has some very definite advantages to offer to the younger generation of students who must use the microscope. Our scope is much more catholic and general than that of most societies, and is yet quite specific and technical enough to serve the specialist. Our publications ought to be peculiarly valuable to those who do not have access to large lists of special journals.

He desires, therefore, to ask very earnestly that all members, beside keeping alive their own membership, aid him in the following ways:—

1) Send to the Secretary the names of any persons likely to be attracted by our program. These may well be of your present advanced students, recent students who have gone out into teaching or other work of a scientific kind, colleagues, acquaintances among progressive high school or college teachers, and isolated workers with the microscope.

2) Send in, suitably illustrated for publication, the best discoveries you are making of methods of work, of technical appliances, or of making truth clear to others. We aspire to become one of the best channels in the country for the presentation of such technical notes, in our Department of "*Notes and Reviews.*"

In a "mutual" association like this, where there is no endowment, there is at once the necessity and the privilege of complete and hearty coöperation. As he enters the tenth year of service to the Society, the Secretary feels more than ever that this may be made the most prosperous period in the whole history of the Society.

CRYSTALS IN AMEBAS

Schaeffer reports (Baltimore meeting Am. Soc. of Zoologists, 1918) that crystals, reasonably distinctive in shape and size, characterize different species of amebas. These crystals are within vacuoles and